

Von *ferox* lagen Santschi nur Arbeiter vor. Sie sollen sich von *bellicosum* durch die kuerzere Anschwellung der Epipleuren unterscheiden. Dies Merkmal ist jedoch wertlos, da es variiert. Die dicke Geissel hat Santschi korrekt beschrieben, und sie laesst keinen Zweifel, dass es sich um *drepanophorum* handelt.

Bei der Beschreibung von *setigaster* (1953) habe ich bereits darauf hingewiesen, dass es sich wahrscheinlich um das Maennchen von *drepanophorum* handelt. Da es das einzige Maennchen ist, das *hamatum* sehr nahe steht, so kann die Zusammengehoeerigkeit fast als sicher gelten. Doch bevor man den Namen in die Synonymie verweist, wartet man am besten den Fund eines Maennchens im Zuge oder im Neste ab.

Variation. — Die Faerbung scheint etwas variabel; bei einem Soldaten von Bolivien ist der Gaster stark verdunkelt (gebraeunt). Die Variation struktureller Merkmale ist sehr gering. Wie Bates, fand auch ich keinerlei Uebergangsformen zwischen Soldat und Arbeiter.

Biologie. — Ueber die Lebensweise von *E. drepanophorum* liegen bisher nur die Beobachtungen von Bates vor. In einem Brief an Smith macht er folgende Mitteilungen (Smith 1858 p. 149): "This Eciton is the common species at Ega, its columns of foragers being seen very often, but not daily, in different parts of the forest; it is very nearly allied to a species ticketed 42 (*hamata*), but it differs in always having the basal joint of the antennae pale: in 42 it is always concolorous. The large-headed individuals are always extremely similar one to another, none occurring intermediate in size between them and the small ones. I am quite convinced these large-headed ones are a distinct order of individuals in a colony of Ecitons, and fulfil some distinct, peculiar functions; what those functions are I cannot decide at present; I once saw something of their relations to the rest of the colony in a very large and extraordinary procession. On a clayey piece of ground near the beach, just outside the margins of the forest where the place formed a snug little haven surrounded by high rocks and shrubbery, a dense column of Ecitons descended from amongst the rocks on one side of the harbour, traversing the beach and climbing again the opposite side; the length of the column visible was from 60 to 70 yards, and yet there was no appearance of either the van or the rear of the army; they were all moving in the same direction except a few individuals outside the column, these occasionally ran rearward a short distance, and then again advanced in the direction of the main body; these means were apparently for the purpose of keeping up a current of intelligence along the line. In fact when I disturbed the column, or abstracted an individual, intelligence of the disturbance was very rapidly communicated several yards backwards, and the column at that point commenced retreating. The procession was not a predatory affair, because all the small-headed individuals conveyed in their mandibles a little cluster of white maggots, probably larvae of their own species. I have no doubt of its being a migration, as at the time of observation a change of season was taking place, the river retreating from the beach, and the open places above, about to be burnt up by the hot sun of the dry season. — The large-headed individuals were in proportion of perhaps about five in one hundred to the small individuals, but not one carried anything in its mandibles; they were all trotting along outside the column, and distributed in regular proportion throughout the whole line of army, their globular white heads rendering them very conspicuous among the rest, bobbing